**Start Zookeeper with custom configuration (argument for configuration is the relative config path)**

zookeeper-server-start.bat config/zookeeper.properties

**Start Kafka server / broker #1**

kafka-server-start.bat config/server.properties

**Create topic**

kafka-topics.bat --zookeeper 127.0.0.1:2181 --topic first\_topic --create --partitions 3 --replication-factor 1

**DO NOT DELETE TOPICS ON WINDOWS VIA THE INVERSE OF THE ABOVE COMMAND WILL CRASH SERVER AND REQUIRES A SWEEP OF ALL KAFKA SERVER FILES**

**List all topics**

kafka-topics.bat --zookeeper 127.0.0.1:2181 –list

**Describe / explain a particular topic**

kafka-topics.bat --zookeeper 127.0.0.1:2181 --topic first\_topic --describe